

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) BOARD ANNUAL MEETING

Date: April 5, 2006

Time: 10:01 A.M.

Location: 10 N. Senate Avenue, Room 301A
Indianapolis, IN 46204

PRESENT: Bob Dickerson, President; Brent Schoolcraft, Vice-President; Barry Baer, Mo Davison, and Samuel Schlosser—Members. Also in attendance were: Maureen Weber, Deputy Commissioner, Employment Growth; Monty Combs, Deputy Commissioner Finance/Controller; Teresa Melton, IDWD General Counsel; Laura Merrion, IDWD Staff Attorney, and Kristy Musall, IDWD Staff Attorney.

- Called to order by Maureen Weber
- Quorum was present
- Two (2) guests were present—Joe Lawson and Sarah Gangstad

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- Ms. Weber noted that the Commissioner had another appointment and was, therefore, unable to attend the day's meeting. She gave the following report on his behalf:
 - The governor had appointed two (2) new Board members to replace Mr. Thais and Ms. Anderson whose terms had expired—Mr. Robinson's term has also expired but has yet to be filled;¹
 - Introduction of the new at-large member, Samuel Schlosser (the new labor member, Dave Thomas had been unable to attend);
 - Discussed passage of SB 321, and how it affects IDWD;
 - Provided updates regarding the Summer ALJ program; and,
 - UI Modernization project, which is proceeding as scheduled.

At Ms. Weber's request the Board agreed to break with the agenda as presented to open up the floor for election of officers.

- Ms. Weber opened the floor for nominations for president and Mr. Schoolcraft made a motion to nominate Mr. Dickerson for the office, with a second by Mr. Baer. As no further nominations were made, Mr. Dickerson was elected President by acclamation.
- Mr. Dickerson then opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Mr. Baer made a motion to nominate Mr. Schoolcraft for the office, with a second Mr. Dickerson. As no further nominations were made, Mr. Schoolcraft was elected Vice-President by acclamation.

OLD BUSINESS:

¹ Mr. Dickerson's term had also expired, but he was reappointed.

- The minutes of the March 1, 2006 meeting were unanimously adopted on a motion by Mr. Davison, with a second by Mr. Schoolcraft. All members present signed the official Minute Book.
- Ms. Weber distributed draft copies of the Board's *Annual Report*, proposing that the Board review the document before the next meeting, forwarding any changes in content and/or format that they would like to see to her, and then approving it at the next meeting, to which the Board agreed.
- Mr. Baer stated he would like to propose that a letter of thanks be drafted to Mr. Thais, Mr. Robinson, and Ms. Anderson, for their years of service. Ms. Weber noted that such a letter had been sent to the former members by the Governor, and that Mr. Stiver had followed that up with a personal phone call thanking them. Mr. Davison made a motion that Resolutions be prepared thanking Mr. Thais, Mr. Robinson and Ms. Anderson for their years of services on the Board—as had been customary in the past. Mr. Baer seconded the motion. Mr. Dickerson called for a vote, and the Board unanimously agreed. Mr. Dickerson asked that said Resolutions be prepared and this item be added to May's agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ms. Merrion updated the Board on the status of employer tax lawsuits, noting that someone would be presenting such a report to the Board each month from this point forward. (For the benefit of Mr. Schlosser, Ms. Melton also gave a brief synopsis on the program.) During discussion—
 - Mr. Baer asked if the list had been stratified, so that the agency was going after the largest debts first. Ms. Melton confirmed that the largest delinquent accounts were being addressed first, totaling approximately \$8.3 million.
 - Mr. Baer asked where the money collected was going. Ms. Melton clarified that future reports could show that the tax portion was going into the Trust Fund, while the penalties/interest was going into the P&I Fund.
 - Ms. Weber noted additional efforts, including more stringent delinquency letters and potentially using outside resources for some collection measures.
- Mr. Combs brought before the Board a proposal/Resolution per IC 2-4-25-1(a) to allocate an amount not to exceed five hundred, eighty-one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-two dollars (\$581,862.00) to fund the FY-05 UI budget shortfall. During discussion the Board asked if they should expect such a request annually, to which Mr. Combs replied that the current administration expected this to be a one time request. Following the discussion a motion was made by Mr. Davison and seconded by Mr. Baer to pass the Resolution. By a unanimous vote the proposal was accepted.
- Mr. Combs informed the Board that the agency planned to reallocate funds the Board had approved from the P&I fund (at the September 7, 2005 meeting) to be used by the Information Technology (IT) Division. Mr. Combs stated the agency planned to reallocate a portion of the unused funds (estimated cost—sixty-five thousand dollars [\$65,000.00]) to hire a contractor to assist with IT projects (i.e., SUTA dumping, debit

card program) during the IOT transition. Mr. Baer stated he would like written documentation of the exact reallocation. Mr. Combs agreed.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION: Mr. Baer noted that currently there was some \$13 million in the P&I fund and requested proposals be submitted by the Department. Ms. Weber noted that the Lead Team had recently submitted suggestions to the Commissioner on this very possibility. By the May meeting, Ms. Weber noted that Mr. Stiver might have a presentation ready to bring before the Board concerning the P&I Fund.

Mr. Schoolcraft asked for the status of the debit card program. The vendor selected should be named within the week, Mr. Combs replied, adding at that time contract negotiations can begin.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Mr. Combs noted that there would be some formatting changes on their next Trust Fund Report. Also on the next report \$5 million will have been de-obligated that was set aside for use in Apprenticeship training that was not utilized in PY 05, Mr. Combs added.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

REVIEW OF MEETINGS: Next meeting is May 3, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at IDWD's Administrative Office.